

ABSTRACT

The present invention provides an application framework under which product applications are configured and manipulated, comprising: (a) application objects providing respective basic information processing functions for use in a product application, each application object containing its processing function within a standard interface with the inputs and output(s) of which the processing function communicates without regard to the connections of those inputs and output(s), (b) an architectural structure in which: application objects are organised into a hierarchy, the application objects being in parent/child relationship one to another in the hierarchy, and the hierarchy comprising an assembly of application objects capable of providing for a product application an application function built from the basic information processing functions of the objects, and data dependencies between application objects are established means of connections between standard interface inputs and output(s) of application objects, whereby the hierarchy can be modified at run-time, and data dependency connections can be set up and/or deleted at run-time.